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SCHWEGMAN LUNDBERG WOESSNER & KLUTH PA
P O BOX 2938
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

EXAMINER

DAS, CHAMELI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2122

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/291,535

Applicant(s)

Stapp

Examiner

Chameli Das

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 2, 2001
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 2 20) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-10, 13-14, 16-21, 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geller et al, (US Patent No. 5,844,554) .

As per claim 1, Geller et al teach providing a file **containing data (data file)** is shown in column 4 line 19-21 (and **specify a data file containing this information** for usage within the configurator program. The developer/sales engineer who creates or maintains the product configurator program merely specifies a path link to the database or file containing the information”) data to be **loaded into the enterprise planning system** is shown in column 8 line 24 (“In accordance with the invention, however, **data stored (loaded) in the ERP database**”), creating a file containing at least one parameter is shown in column 18 line 6-7 (“create the parameter structure and any associated constraints and formulas”) wherein the parameter maps data from the data file to screen is shown in column 4 line 40-46 (“Another aspect of the present invention relates to representation of constraints within the user product configuration program module (data file). This aspect of the invention comprises storing parameters associated with the

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product configurator in a hierarchical arrangement in memory of the computer running the developer environment. The parameters are displayed in a "parameter explorer" window, which can be invoked at any time to allow creation and modification of the parameters underlying the configurator"), "storing parameters associated with the product configurator" inherently including parameter file maps data from the data file" and "parameters are displayed in a "parameter explorer" window" inherently including data from the data file to screen as claimed. Processing each record in the data file according to the parameters in the parameter file to execute screens as claimed is shown in column 4 line 40-46, " the product configurator running (executing) the developer environment, the parameters are displayed in a parameter explorer window" inherently including parameter file to execute screens as claimed, and column 42 line 35-36 ("If so, a process 4100 is executed to display the parameter selector window") and column 41 line 57-61 ("t decision 3520, the command is tested to determine whether the Parameter Controls tab 806 (FIG. 8) has been selected. If so, process 4000 is executed to carry out a Parameter Control command. Details of this particular process is provided in conjunction with FIG. 40. "), data form the data file to the enterprise resources planning system is shown in column 8 line 51-56 ("The executable configuration software 10 is operative to execute SQL queries on any ERP data upon loading of the configuration software for running (i.e., at run time), to open any data tables required to satisfy the query. Also, queries on ERP data are executed when any formula containing a query needs to be recalculated").

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Geller et al do not specifically teach processing each record. Official notice is taken in processing each record is well know in the art. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made for processing each record because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to receive the output of each input efficiently.

As per claim 2, Geller et al teach data extracting form the legacy system is shown in column 4 line 11-14 ("Another aspect of the present invention is the ability for information that is associated with a control to be derived from an external database"), information that derived from an external database inherently including data from the legacy system as claimed.

As per claim 3, Geller et al teach creating file at least one parameter is shown in column 4 line 40-44, conditional logic associated with the parameters is shown in ABSTRACT line 5-8 ("Methods are disclosed for creating and maintaining the logic for a configuration program module in the form of configuration parameters; creating and maintaining the visual controls")

As per claim 4, Geller et al teach parameter comprises creating a file with a text editor is shown in column 8 line 6-7 ("the developer environment is operative to allow construction of a user interface for the configuration software 10, creation and editing of parameters and constraints of the configuration, accessing existing data of the enterprise,"), column 15 line 42-45.

As per claim 5, 19, 26, Geller et al teach parameter includes a transaction code is shown in column 11 line 4-7 (" Parameter values and relationships are used to manipulate the screen (the user interface) of the configuration software") inherently including parameter including

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transaction code as claimed. In column 19 line 10-16 Geller et al teach ("After the parameter structure is created, any necessary external data resources are prepared. This involves identifying any existing data resources the developer intends to use, and obtaining any documentation necessary to query that data, such as table and column/field names and data types. The more existing resources that can be utilized, the easier it will be to maintain the configurator"), identifying any existing data resources, obtaining any documentation, field name, data types inherently including screen identification code, a screen number, field name as claimed, and column 21 line 1-4, column 21 line 41-44, field location is shown in column 21 line 33-37, field length is shown in column 18 line 26-28, "parameter is like a variable or a field", inherently including a field length as claimed.

As per claim 6, Geller et al teach retrieving a record (data) from the data file is shown in column 4 line 23-28, "which retrieves and employs the relevant data" inherently including retrieving a record or data as claimed, retrieving parameters from the parameter files, creating commands (logic for a configuration program) based on the parameters as claimed is shown in ABSTRACT line 5-23, executing screens as claimed is shown in column 12 line 31-39, column 40 line 65-67 and column 41 line 5-7.

As per claim 7, Geller et al teach retrieving conditional logic parameters is shown in ABSTRACT line 4-19.

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As per claim 8, Geller et al teach recording errors when executing as claimed is shown in column 22 line 20-22, "compile the program, check for errors" inherently including recording errors when executing as claimed.

As per claim 9, 16 and 23 Geller does not specifically teach audit file for each record. Official notice is taken in auditing file is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to audit files for records because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to determine how efficiently the overall system is performing.

As per claim 10, 17 and 24 Geller et al teach transmitting results of a run is shown in column 5 line 9-12 ("the developer runs or compiles the developer environment to create a new executable program, which is then suitable for distribution to the sales force"), Geller does not specifically teach e-mail address. Official notice is taking e-mail address is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to take e-mail address because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to exchange messages or computer files over a communications network easily and efficiently.

As per claim 11 Geller et al teach ceasing processing the records is shown in column 45 line 23-28 and column 30 line 64-67.

As per claim 13, 20 Geller et al teach parameter file containing plurality of parameter is shown in ABSTRACT line 5-12, opening an associated data file as claimed is shown in column 4 line 18-28, for the rest of the limitations see the rejection of claim 1 above.

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As per claim 14 and 21 Geller et al teach conditional parameters is shown in column 26 line 16-26 and column 42 line 20-38

As per claim 18 and 25, Geller et al teach creating commands based on plurality of parameters as claimed is shown in column 26 line 48-58 and column 30 line 18-27. 3.

Claims 11-12, 15 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geller et al, (US Patent No. 5,844,554) in view of Glowny (US Patent No. 5,805,897).

As per claim 11 Geller et al do not teach ceasing processing the records. However, Glowny teaches ceasing processing the records is shown in column 4 line 59-61, "monitoring installation status, the operator may suspend the tasks for later resumption" inherently including ceasing processing the records as claimed. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Glowny's ceasing method into the teaching of Geller's processing data file method because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to avoid the frustrating and costly process of starting from the beginning see column 5 line 5-6.

As per claims 12, 15 and 22 Geller et al do not specifically teach restarting process as claimed. However, Glowny teaches restarting processing of record after last record processed during a prior execution of the method is shown in column 4 line 35-39, "restart of a task can determine that last executed step and begin at that point" inherently including restarting processing of record after last record processed during a prior execution of the method as claimed. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of

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invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Glowny's restarting method into the teaching of Geller's processing data file method because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to continue the process after completion of the processing of all records in the file.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made or record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

TITLE: Agent-adapter architecture for use in enterprise application integration systems, US 6256676 B1

TITLE: System, method and article of manufacture for a mobile communication network utilizing a distributed communication network, US 6199099 B1

TITLE: System, method and article of manufacture for a globally addressable interface in a communication services patterns environment, US 6289382 B1

TITLE: System and process for inter-domain planning analysis and optimization using model agents as partial replicas of remote domains, US 5995945 A

TITLE: Method and system for rapid memory-resident processing of transactional data, US 6192370 B1


5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chameli Das whose telephone number is 703-306-3014. The

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examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 A.M to 4:30 P.M. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Greg Morse can be reached at 703-308-4789. The fax number for this group is 703-74607239. An inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9600.

C. DAS.

3/4/02


GREGORY MORSE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 15